

Meeting Minutes
Iowa Commission on Aging
By Conference Call

Thursday, December 10th, 2020 10:00am

<https://zoom.us/j/94447783331>

Dial in: +1 312 626 6799 US Meeting ID: 944 4778 3331

Welcome and Call to Order

Chairman Jenkins called the meeting to order at 10:01 A.M.

Roll Call

Members Present

G. Willard Jenkins

Cindy Baddeloo

Carole Dunkin

Quentin Hart

Suzanne Heckenlaible

Rich Motz

Steve Van Oort

*Representative Ann Meyer

*Senator Amanda Ragan

*Non-voting, Ex-officio members

Members Absent

*Representative Mary Gaskill

*Senator Mark Segebart

Others present:

Director Linda Miller, Assistant Director Brian Majeski, Marissa Patterson – Administrative Assistant, Angela Van Pelt – Legislative Liaison and PIO, Tiffani Crow – Administrative Assistant, Linda Hildreth – IDA Team Lead, Betty Grandquist and daughter Nichole, Shelly Sindt – Elderbridge AAA, Kelly Butts-Elston – Connections AAA, Donna Harvey and Mike Donohue – NEI3A, Joel Olah – Central Iowa AAA, Becky Passman – Milestones AAA, Barb Werning – Heritage AAAWendi, Bev, and Dusty – Beverly Winkie's children, Caroline Barrett – AG's Office, Bob Welsh – OIL, Stefanie Baker, Sally M, Kent Ohms – IDA, Jennifer Donovan – IDA, Steve, Cynthia Pederson – OSLTCO, Kevin, and Ian Winkie

Approve Agenda and Minutes

Commissioner Hart made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Commissioner Van Oort second, motion carried unanimously. Chairman Jenkins called for a motion to approve the minutes of the September 10th meeting. Commissioner Hart motioned and Commissioner Dunkin second, motion carried unanimously.

Department Update

Director Miller

Half of the IDA staff came back in to the office but due to the increase in COVID numbers now are continuing to work remotely. Director Miller and some staff attended the virtual HCBS Conference in early December. HCBS has the same goals as the Department in that people want to stay in their homes and have services available to them. Director Miller also met with Marissa Eyenson to discuss the pre-Medicaid waiver as well as Dr. Brian Kaskie who the Department is partnering with on some research for grants and waiver services for the IRTC program.

AAA Update

Kelly Butts-Elston

The six AAAs continue to be busy helping the people in their service areas. Their focus continues to be on nutrition to seniors in isolation. Some AAAs are serving hot meals every day and others are split between hot and cold/frozen meals. Four AAAs are using GrandPads to engage those who are socially isolated. The GrandPads feedback that the AAAs have received is that they are user friendly and that they soon hope to get the GrandPads available statewide in all AAAs and to be the first state to do this.

Legislative Update

Angela Van Pelt

The Senate and House have stayed majority Republican and the legislative session will start January 11th, 2021. The Department sat in on the Governor's Economic Recovery Council and will be watching for the health issues that were discussed and the future of telehealth and virtual care visits in the future.

OSLTCO Update

Cynthia Pederson

The State Long Term Care Ombudsman office is working to make sure that residents and their families know that they are here. They have sent out PSAs on both radio and TV and are planning to do a print campaign in the near future. Visitation concerns still are number one reasons for calls as well as an increase in family frustrations around holiday visits, etc. The guidance continues to evolve and the staff at the OSLTCO are continuing to be in contact with nursing facilities and staff. An empowerment specialist has been added to the OSLTCO staff and she has started up the resident council. The office will also be starting a new monthly report that will be sent out electronically along with the monthly newsletter (The Advocate). Facilities have been opening mail and taking the residents stimulus checks and the OSLTCO has been working with cooperation from associations and attorneys on this issue.

Office of the Public Guardian Report

Jennifer Donovan

Jennifer gave a presentation on the Office of the Public Guardian (presentation can be found online with December 10th, 2020 meeting handouts). There is one office and contracts out for others, due to the need there is always a waiting list for individuals in need of a public guardian and therefore they run at capacity. Her year has been filled with many presentations and she has worked to update a handbook for adult guardians and conservators. Jennifer is now working on making information sheets for the office with commonly asked questions and more information.

Senior Community Service Employment Program

Brian Majeski

There has been a change in training positions and a request for proposals made switches in the ADLs. The coalitions is building and working on serving the rural communities. Kyra has worked hard on this program and has now grouped the areas so that the ADLs make more sense and are not as spread out as they were before. PowerPoint used for this presentation can also be found in the December 10th, 2020 meeting handouts online.

Return to Community Update

Kent Ohms

The Iowa Return to Community program has been implemented in pilot projects in some of the AAAs already. Kent has done research into the Coleman Model which works with clients for 90 days after release from hospital or facility to home. Throughout the 90 days the AAA would connect clients to other services in the community or within the AAA. Kent is working on grants with Dr. Brian Kaskie on research and is hopeful to get funding to start more pilots in the AAAs for sustainable care and transition services to be available statewide. More information can be found in the PowerPoint that Kent presented which can be found in the December 10th, 2020 meeting handouts.

Announcements from the Commission

Phone scams continue to be on the rise and Chairman Jenkins has sent emails/letters to legislators on how these scams are negatively affecting the elderly.

Commissioner Van Oort spoke on the new senior center in Ankeny and has invited the commission to meet there in the future when it is safe to do so in person.

Betty Grandquist Awards

There were two award winners and it was an honor to have Betty Grandquist to present the award to Beverly Wsinkie's family and to Donna Harvey. Betty commented on how it is fun to see how the aging community continues to grow and move things forward together.

Public Comment

Proposed meetings for 2021 are as followed at 10:00am:

- March 11th, 2021
- June 10th, 2021
- September 9th, 2021
- December 9th, 2021

Meeting in person or virtually will be sent out prior to the meeting.

Adjournment

Chairman Jenkins called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Van Oort motioned and Commissioner Heckenlaible seconded. Motion carried with a unanimous voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 11:40 A.M.

Linda J. Miller
3/11/2021

G. William Jenkins
11 MAR 2021